

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application, of which claims 8, 10, 13 and 14 have been amended. No new claims have been added.

The Examiner has maintained from the previous Office Action the 35 USC §112, first paragraph, rejection, and has suggested amendments to claim 13, for example, to overcome this rejection.

Accordingly, claims 8, 10 and 13 have been amended to overcome this rejection.

In regard to the rejection of claim 18, it should be noted that Fig. 7 and page 30, line 15 to page 31, line 4 of the specification supports the recitation of a voltage adjusting circuit comprising a plurality of switches S11, S12 and S13 for adjusting the bias voltage among a plurality of values, as claimed.

Thus, the 35 USC §112, first paragraph, rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has also maintained from the previous Office Action, the 35 USC §102(e) rejection of claim 14 as anticipated by Lee.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As noted in Applicants' response of April 30, 2003, Lee discloses an auto gain controller having a temperature compensation function including a transistor Q1 having a gate terminal G, a drain terminal D and a source terminal S, and a gain amplifier 32 with an inversion input terminal connected to the source terminal S of the transistor Q1, a non-inversion terminal for receiving a reference signal from differential amplifier S2, and an output terminal connected to the gate terminal G of the transistor Q1, wherein a gain of the gain amplifier 32 changes in

proportion with a drain current of the transistor Q1.

Column 4, lines 7-52 disclose that neither gain amplifier 32 nor differential amplifier 52 provide a bias voltage adjustment function. In fact, column 4, lines 52-55 disclose that "the current applied to the bias portion 31 is maintained uniformly even if noise occurs in the input signal"

In contrast, claim 14 of the present application recites that the bias voltage is adjusted to change the bias current flowing through the transistor serving as a current source, as discussed on page 19 of the specification, lines 9 to 12.

Accordingly, claim 14 has been amended to clarify this distinction, and the 35 USC §103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-18, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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